SUBJECT No. 115.

Abolition of tax on kanas.

Messrs. Srinivas Sitaram Kulkarni Harihar Sub-Taluk and Shamanna Udupa, Shimoga District Board.

Summary of discussion.—The subject of entirely abolishing the tax on kanas was brought forward successively during the last four years. Last year, Government replied that a report had been received from the Revenue Commissioner and that early orders would be passed in the matter. It is again urged that orders may be passed entirely abolishing the said tax.

Reply of Government.—The matter is under consideration.

SUBJECT No. 116.

Grant of certain powers to inamdars.

Mr. Madappa, Mysore Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Occupants in inam villages do not attend to the repairs of bandhs and when bandhs are destroyed they encroach upon the neighbouring kharab lands, roads, and lanes. The taluk authorities have multifarious duties and cannot attend to this work. Inamdars may be authorised to levy a small fine in such cases.

Reply of Government.—By obtaining a commission under Section 99, clause (*f*) of the Land Revenue Code, the inamdar can acquire the necessary power to take measures for the maintenance and repair of boundary marks. The cost of repairing them may be recovered as an arrear of land revenue. Where no such power has been conferred the proper maintenance of the boundary marks in villages, surveyed and settled, devolves on the Deputy Commissioner as per Government Order No. 13448-9—R. F. 81-92, dated 27th January 1893, and may be enforced through the Amildar.

SUBJECT No. 117.

Collection of Government dues by shekdars.

Mr. Lakshminarasimhachar, Chamrajnagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Shekdars may also be empowered to collect kandayam and issue receipts, as this will facilitate the collection of Government dues and at the same time afford convenience to the raiyats.

Reply of Government.—Not necessary.

SUBJECT No. 118.

Reservation of a margin of 50 yards on both sides of streams.

Mr. H. Pilkington, The North Mysore Planters' Association.

Summary of discussion.—Mr. Pilkington.—I have been instructed by the North Mysore Planters' Association to say that we are anxiously awaiting the decision of Government on this, to us, most important point.

We do not ask for the total withdrawal of the rule, as we fully realize the necessity of control over head-waters, but we ask for its modification, permitting each case to be settled on its own merits. We met the Conservator in March last and received a most sympathetic hearing from him and we have every reason to believe that if his recommendations are carried out, Government interests will be safeguarded and the extension of planting not unduly interfered with.

Floods and scarcity of water are, I believe, being attributed to an imaginary denudation of forest on the ghats. I say imaginary, because you, sir, who know the ghats, know that no such denudation has ever taken place